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Die Nachahmung und ihre Bedeutung für Psychologie und Völkerkunde, von P. BECK. Hermann Haacke, Leipzig, 1904. pp. 173.

A serious treatise with no index, not even that of chapters, with no italics, no summaries, is, we believe, unless it has peculiar merit, destined to obscurity. There is no way to get into a book like this. To be sure some sections are headed perception, language, imitation, reason, kultus, morality, science. We believe that a book which must be read through before it can be understood what field it covers is doomed to oblivion. We have not time to give a hard day or two's work to find out whether this book is very good or very bad. It seems to be more philosophical than scientific.

La Vision, par J. P. NUEL. (Bibliothèque internationale de psychologie expérimentale, normale et pathologique.) Octave Doin, Paris, 1904. pp. 376.

The writer attempts to summarize the researches of the last few years in this field. The first part discusses vision in animals. The second part, beginning with page 115, treats visions in man. The work does not pretend to be a pioneer work, but is a good summary of the field included, with a bibliography brought up to date. It is well provided with indexes.

Die stammesgeschichtliche Entstehung des Bienenstaates sowie Beiträge zur Lebensweise der solitären u. sozialen Bienen (Hummeln, Meliponinen, etc.), von H. VON BUTTEL-REEFEN. G. Thieme, Leipzig, 1903. pp. 138.

This distinguished author has here expanded a lecture, originally given in 1902, into a little volume in which he describes the methods of animal psychology, the conceptions of instinct, reiterates his views that bees and wasps are not automata. The natural history of the bee the author traces back to several forms of insect ancestry which burrowed and laid their eggs in single holes in the ground. Sometimes these insects were solitary. Later their burrows were somewhat grouped together either in vertical, spiral or other forms. Burrows with two or three branches, nests like those of many ants honeycombed with passages, mud wasps that dig a group of holes together, bumble bees and their well known nests—all these are stages toward the development of the hive and honeycomb. In the second part, entitled Physiology without Biology, the author returns to his controversy with Bethe, and in the end collects a valuable literature of one hundred and ninety-nine titles.

Die Elemente der Musikalischen Ästhetik, von HUGO RIEMANN. W. Spemann, Berlin, 1900. pp. 237.

This work, by a Leipzig docent who is an expert in music, discusses art and music in general, then takes up pitch, timbre, dynamics, the roots of art, scale and harmony, dissonance, tonality, rhythm, motive, imitation, contrast and tone painting.

Grundzüge der allgemeinen Ästhetik, von STEPHAN WITASEK. Johann A. Barth, Leipzig, 1904. pp. 410.

This book is the unified product of many contributions of its writer to this subject. He first discusses the problem and methods of aesthetics, its material point of view, and then surveys æsthetic facts, objects, chief types, the state of the subject, the nature of æsthetic enjoyment, pseudo æsthetic factors of enjoyment, the explanation of them, the æsthetic norm, etc., and from this standpoint undertakes to define and describe true art.

Der Ursprung der Kunst. Von YRJÖ HIRN. Johann Ambrosius Barth, Leipzig, 1904. pp. 338.

This is a translation from English into German of this remarkable and well known work by this author.

Versuch einer Stellungnahme zu den Hauptfragen der Kunstphilosophie, I, von K. S. LAURILLA. Helsingfors, 1903. pp. 251.

We have here a very philosophical discussion of art, its idea, its essence and nature, its origins, problem, significance for modern life, and lastly its relations to morality. The writer is evidently a good man and a religious one and few would dispute the general drift of his argument but it may well be doubted whether much of value is added to the subject by so abstract a discussion of it.

Balance, the Fundamental Verity, by ORLANDO J. SMITH. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston, 1904. pp. 146.

This is an honest, well-meant book intended to show the triumph of righting justice in the world, especially that the soul is accountable, that it survives death, and that there is a supreme power that rights things.

The Neighbor, by N. S. SHALER. The Natural History of Human Contacts. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston, 1904. pp. 342.

This, like the two preceding books of the same author, was worth writing and will prove for some worth reading. Like the others it will be also disappointing to those who expect much scholarship in the fields it touches or much novelty in the way of suggestions. It is a strong instinct and no doubt an excellent practice for scientists who have devoted long and laborious years to their department to expatiate on larger general questions. They are generally hard-headed, practical, sensible men and the muse of common sense will always have its votaries. We confess to a little disappointment in reading the writer's treatment of the Hebrew and the African problem. The former is largely historical and it would seem as though his long academic experience and observation might have taught him more of living present interest. That he really adds to our knowledge of the African cannot be said.

L'Individualisme Anarchiste. Max Stirner. Par VICTOR BASCH. Félix Alcan, Paris, 1904. pp. 294.

Max Stirner was born in 1806 and died in 1856. He was in youth a pupil of Hegel and after taking his degree became teacher in a girls' high school in Berlin. Here, in 1844, he wrote his remarkable book entitled "Das Ich und sein Eigenthum." In this he carried the affirmation of individualism and even selfishness to its utmost extreme as against Hegelism which subordinates persons to movements of the Zeit Geist. This book produced considerable sensation, but its advocacy of extreme and selfish egoism unsettled the author. He had to resign his position and thenceforth lived in squalor doing hack work. His second wife, also an extreme socialist and from whom he was divorced and who lived on till 1896 in London, is said to have sunk very low. Stirner would have been almost forgotten had it not been for the interest in Nietzsche of whom he is called one of the precursors. This prompted John Henry MacKay to write Stirner's life and it also prompted this book.

Die Familie, von W. H. RIEHL. 12th ed. T. G. Cotta, Berlin, 1904. pp. 321.

This prolific author here publishes the twelfth edition of his work.